

The Importance of Elders

Scripture Reading: 1 Timothy 3:1-7

The Background:

- There are five “faithful sayings” in the New Testament.
 - 1 Tim. 1:15; 3:1; 4:9; 2 Tim. 2:11; Titus 3:8
- These are the _____ of the early church.
- This saying seems much less doctrinal.
- It leads to a discussion of _____.

The Desire to be an Elder.

- The dangers of _____.
 - 1 Timothy 6:9
 - Sometimes translated as “lust.”
- In this case, it is a _____ desire.
 - We should not be afraid of these men.
 - In fact, we should encourage this.
- There is a _____ of elders.
 - Due to lack of preparation.
 - Due to lack of desire.
 - Due to lack of knowledge.

The Qualifications of an Elder (1 Timothy 3:2-7)

- Examining these qualities.
 - Based on Luke 2:52.
 - An elder must show _____.
- The work of an elder.
 - 1 Peter 5:1-2
 - Acts 20:17, 28
 - An elder, bishop, shepherd
 - The work described:
 - Acts 20, 1 Peter 5, 1 Timothy 5:17, Titus 1
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:12, James 5:14
 - Hebrews 14:17
- Application
 - 1 Thessalonians 5:12; Hebrews 13:17
 - John 10:1-18